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FORMER PHILADELPHIA POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR DRUG AND GUN CHARGES

PHILADELPHIA - Alhinde Weems, 34, of Philadelphia, was sentenced today to 15 years in prison for his conviction on drug and firearm charges, announced United States Attorney Zane David Memeger. Weems pleaded guilty to the charges in January. Between December 2008 and January 2009, while employed as a Philadelphia Police Officer, Weems intentionally distributed crack cocaine two times and attempted to distribute a kilogram of cocaine on another occasion. In March 2009, Weems planned to rob someone he believed to be another drug dealer and planned to use several firearms to commit this robbery, including his Philadelphia Police Department service weapon. Weems planned to use his authority as a police officer to commit the robbery by "badging" his way in and/or dressing like an officer and/or detective. In reality, the drug dealer was an undercover ATF agent. Weems was arrested with his service weapon on the way to committing the robbery. Four different firearms were recovered from his house, along with ammunition and a homemade silencer. Weems pleaded guilty to two counts of distribution of crack, one count each of attempt to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine, attempt to commit a Hobbs Act robbery, and use of a firearm in the course of a violent crime.

In addition to the prison term, U.S. District Court Judge Joel H. Slomsky ordered forfeiture of \$4,700.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Maria M. Carrillo.

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